

ONOE et al.

Serial No.: 10/615,404

Response to Office Action of March 17, 2006

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject patent application are respectfully requested.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claim 25 is allowed. While not acquiescing in the rejection of claims 26-29 based on Kasanuki et al., these claims have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to advance prosecution. The objection to the drawings and the Section 112, first paragraph, rejection of claims 28 and 30-33 are moot. Consequently, this application is now believed to be in condition for allowance and favorable office action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:



Michael J. Shea

Reg. No. 34,725

MJS:mjs

901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor

Arlington, VA 22203-1808

Telephone: (703) 816-4000

Facsimile: (703) 816-4100